

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with strikethrough. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claim 4, AMEND claims 1, 5-7, 9 and 15-21 and ADD new claim 22 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A method for selling a commodity using a shopping site on a network, said method comprising:

judging whether a customer who has accessed a commodity selling system via the network is a constituent member of a particular group based on an address accessed by the customer;

selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of the particular group, upon receiving the order for the commodity from the customer; and

selling an ordered commodity based on second sales conditions if the customer is not a constituent member of the particular group, upon receiving the order for the commodity from the customer;

wherein a plurality of addresses for access by a plurality of customers are provided.

2. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

offering a first commodity catalog including the first sales conditions to the customer, if the customer is a constituent member of the particular group;

offering a second commodity catalog including the second sales conditions to the customer, if the customer is not a constituent member of the particular group; and

selling the ordered commodity based on the first sales conditions upon receiving an order issued using the first commodity catalog, and selling the ordered commodity based on the second sales conditions upon receiving an order issued using the second commodity catalog.

3. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein a price of a commodity according to the first sales conditions is lower than the price of the commodity according to the second sales conditions.

4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) A method for selling a commodity using a shopping site on a network, said method comprising:

judging whether a customer who has accessed a commodity selling system via the network is a constituent member of a particular group;

selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of the particular group, upon receiving the order for the commodity from the customer;

selling an ordered commodity based on second sales conditions if the customer is not a constituent member of the particular group, upon receiving the order for the commodity from the customer; and ~~The method according to claim 1, further comprising,~~

~~judging~~ judging whether the customer is a constituent member of the particular group based upon a network route used by the customer to gain access.

6. (currently amended) A method for selling a commodity using a shopping site on a network, said method comprising:

certifying a constituent member of a particular group, and displaying a first commodity catalog including special sales conditions set for the constituent member of a particular group, and displaying a first commodity catalog including special sales conditions set for the constituent member of the particular group on a terminal of the constituent member, when the constituent member access the shopping site using a dedicated address;

displaying a second commodity catalog including ordinary sales conditions on a terminal of a customer other than the constituent member, when the customer access the shopping site using a general address;

selling the ordered commodity based on the special sales conditions upon receiving the order issued using the first commodity catalog, and selling the ordered commodity based on the ordinary sales conditions upon receiving the order issued using the second commodity catalog, wherein a plurality of addresses for access by a plurality of customers are provided.

7. (currently amended) A method for selling a commodity using a shopping site on a network, said method comprising:

judging to which group among a plurality of particular groups a customer who has accessed via the network belongs based on an address accessed by the customer;

selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of a first group, upon receiving the order for the commodity from the customer; and

selling an ordered commodity based on second sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of a second group, upon receiving the order for the commodity from the customer,

wherein a plurality of addresses for access by a plurality of customers are provided.

8. (original) The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

offering a first commodity catalog including the first sales conditions to the customer, if the customer is a constituent member of the first group;

offering a second commodity catalog including the second sales conditions to the customer, if the customer is a constituent member of the second group; and

selling the ordered commodity based on the first sales conditions upon receiving an order issued using the first commodity catalog, and selling the ordered commodity based on the second sales conditions upon receiving an order issued using the second commodity catalog.

9. (currently amended) A system for selling a commodity, said system comprising:

a certification information storage unit storing information for certifying a constituent member of a particular group;

a certification unit checking whether a customer is a constituent member of the particular group with reference to said certification information storage unit, when accessed by the customer via a network based on an address accessed by the customer;

a commodity information storage unit storing first sales conditions that define conditions for selling commodity to a constituent member of the particular group and storing second sales conditions that define conditions for selling a commodity to a customer other than a constituent member of the particular group; and

a selling unit selling a commodity based on a result of said certification unit and the sales conditions stored in said commodity information storage unit, upon receiving an order for the commodity from the customer,

wherein a plurality of addresses for access by a plurality of customers are provided.

10. (original) The system according to claim 9, further comprising an offering unit offering the first sales conditions to the customer who has been certified by said certification unit and offering the second sales conditions to other customers, wherein

said selling unit sells the commodity to the customer based on the sales conditions offered to the customer when receiving an order for the commodity from the customer.

11. (original) The system according to claim 9, wherein said commodity information storage unit stores the first and second conditions for each commodity.

12. (original) The system according to claim 9, wherein said certification information storage unit and said certification unit are owned or managed by a seller who sells the commodities.

13. (original) The system according to claim 9, wherein said certification information storage unit and said certification unit are owned or managed by the particular group.

14. (original) The system according to claim 10, wherein said offering unit displays a commodity catalog including the first sales conditions on the terminal screen of the customer who has been certified by said certification unit, and displays a commodity catalog including the second sales conditions on the terminal screen of a customer other than the certified customer.

15. (currently amended) An apparatus for selling a commodity, said apparatus comprising:

a providing unit providing a shopping site that can be accessed via a network;

a commodity information storage unit storing first sales conditions that define conditions for selling a commodity to a constituent member of the particular group and storing second sales conditions that define conditions for selling a commodity to a customer other than a constituent member of the particular group; and

a selling unit selling an ordered commodity based on the first sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of the particular group, and selling an ordered commodity based on the second sales conditions if the customer is not a constituent member of the particular group, upon receiving an order for the commodity from the customer,

wherein whether the customer is a constituent member of the particular group is determined based on an address accessed by the customer, and

wherein a plurality of addresses for access by a plurality of customers are provided.

16. (currently amended) An apparatus for selling a commodity, said apparatus comprising;

a providing unit providing a shopping site that can be accessed at a plurality of addresses; and

a selling unit selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions when accessed by a constituent member of a particular group using a first address among the plurality of addresses, and selling an ordered commodity based on second sales conditions when accessed by using a second address among the plurality of addresses, upon receiving an order for the commodity from the customer,

wherein whether the customer is a constituent member of the particular group is determined based on an address accessed by the customer, and

wherein a plurality of addresses for access by a plurality of customers are provided.

17. (currently amended) An apparatus for selling a commodity, said apparatus comprising:

a providing unit providing a shopping site that can be accessed via a network;

a commodity information storage unit storing first sales conditions that define conditions for selling a commodity to a constituent member of a first particular group and storing second sales conditions that define conditions for selling a commodity to a constituent member of a second particular group; and

a selling unit selling an ordered commodity based on the first sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of the first particular group, and selling an ordered commodity based on the second sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of the second particular group, upon receiving an order for the commodity from the customer,

wherein whether the customer is a constituent member of the particular group is determined based on an address accessed by the customer, and

wherein a plurality of addresses for access by a plurality of customers are provided.

18. (currently amended) A- The system according to claim 9, further comprising a terminal device used for purchasing a commodity from a shopping site on a network, ~~said the~~ terminal device comprising:

an accessing unit accessing the shopping site, which offers a first commodity catalog to a constituent member of a particular group and a second commodity catalog to a customer other than a constituent member of the particular group, using a predetermined address;

a displaying unit displaying the first commodity catalog offered by the shopping site; and
an ordering unit ordering a commodity using the first commodity catalog.

19. (currently amended) A recording medium that records a program, executed by a computer, for selling a commodity, said program ~~comprising~~ causing the computer to perform:

~~a program code for judging whether a customer who has accessed via the network is a constituent member of a particular group~~ based on an address accessed by the customer;

~~a program code for selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of the particular group, upon receiving an order for the commodity from the customer; and~~

~~a program code for selling an ordered commodity based on second sales conditions if the customer is not a constituent member of the particular group, upon receiving an order for the commodity from the customer,~~

wherein a plurality of addresses for access by a plurality of customers are provided.

20. (currently amended) A recording medium that records a program, executed by a computer, for selling a commodity, said program ~~comprising~~ causing the computer to perform:

~~a program code for providing a shopping site that can be accessed at a plurality of addresses; and~~

~~a program code for selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions when accessed by a constituent member of a particular group using a first address among the plurality of addresses, and selling an ordered commodity based on second sales conditions when accessed by using a second address among the plurality of addresses, upon receiving an order for the commodity from the customer,~~

wherein whether the customer is a constituent member of the particular group is determined based on an address accessed by the customer, and

wherein a plurality of addresses for access by a plurality of customers are provided.

21. (currently amended) A recording medium that records a program, executed by a computer, for selling a commodity, said program ~~comprising~~ causing the computer to perform:

~~a program code for providing a shopping site that can be accessed via a network; and~~

~~a program code for~~ selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of a first particular group, and selling an ordered commodity based on second sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of a second particular group, upon receiving an order for the commodity from the customer,

wherein whether the customer is a constituent member of the particular group is determined based on an address accessed by the customer, and

wherein a plurality of addresses for access by a plurality of customers are provided.

22. (new) The apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising a terminal device used for purchasing a commodity from a shopping site on a network, the terminal device comprising:

an accessing unit accessing the shopping site, which shopping site offers a first commodity catalog to a constituent member of a particular group and a second commodity catalog to a customer other than a constituent member of the particular group, using a predetermined address;

a displaying unit displaying the first commodity catalog offered by the shopping site; and
an ordering unit ordering a commodity using the first commodity catalog.